

Application No. 10/002,102
Supplemental Amendment

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 (Canceled).

29. (New) A pattern formation member adapted for use in a sectioning image observation apparatus that scans a sample with light from a light source, said pattern formation member comprising:

5 a rotation disk having a plurality of areas,
wherein each of the plurality of areas comprises translucent sections and shield sections disposed alternately to form a straight pattern;

10 wherein all translucent sections have a same width as each other and all shield sections have a same width as each other around a same circumference of all concentric circles inscribable upon the rotation disk; and

15 wherein the plurality of areas comprises different straight patterns which are different from each other in at least one of the width of the translucent sections, the width of the shield sections, and orientation.

30. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 29, wherein said plurality of areas comprises areas bounded

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by concentric circles, and each of the plurality of areas
comprises a different straight pattern.

31. (New) A pattern formation member adapted for use in a
sectioning image observation apparatus that scans a sample with
light from a light source, said pattern formation member
comprising:

5 a rotation disk comprising:

(i) at least one area having translucent sections and
shield sections disposed alternately to form a straight pattern;
and

10 (ii) at least one shield area disposed at a portion of
the at least one area where the straight pattern would be
parallel to a scanning direction according to a rotation of said
rotation disk in an observation field to reduce uneven
brightness;

15 wherein all translucent sections of said at least one area
have a same width as each other and all shield sections of said
at least one area have a same width as each other along a same
circumference of all concentric circles which may be inscribed
upon the rotation disk; and

20 wherein the rotation disk does not include any exclusively
translucent area along a same circumference of any concentric

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circle which may be inscribed upon the rotation disk to include the straight pattern.

32. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 29, wherein at least one of the plurality of areas comprises a plurality of sector shaped areas.

33. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 29, wherein each of the plurality areas comprises a straight pattern which is not parallel to a scanning direction according to a rotation of said rotation disk in an observation field.

34. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 33, wherein the plurality of areas comprises sector shaped areas having a predetermined central angle.

35. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 33, wherein at least one of the plurality of areas has a predetermined width and comprises a straight pattern with a direction different from directions of the straight patterns of
5 other ones of the plurality of areas.

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36. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 30, wherein the straight patterns of at least two of the plurality of areas comprises different ratios of shield section width to translucent section width.

37. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 36, wherein the width the translucent sections of the at least two areas is substantially constant.

38. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 37, wherein the plurality of areas comprises different direction areas having straight patterns with directions different from the directions of other areas of the rotation disk.

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39. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 38, wherein the different direction areas are disposed in areas of the rotation disk where the straight patterns of other areas of the rotation disk would be are parallel to a scanning direction according to a rotation of said rotation disk in an observation field.

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40. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 39, wherein when a width of a different direction area

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having a constant width is X and a period of the translucent
sections and the shield sections is W in the rotation disk, X/W
5 is constant.

41. (New) The pattern formation member according to
claim 40, wherein the plurality of areas comprises at least two
concentric circle areas each comprising a different direction
area, and wherein:

5 when the translucent sections of at least two concentric
circle areas have a same width a respective period W of the
translucent sections the shield sections of the at least two
concentric circle areas is different,

10 a period W of the translucent sections and the shield
sections on an inner concentric circle area is smaller than that
of an outer concentric circle area, and

a width X of the different direction areas of inner and
outer concentric circle areas is proportional to the period W .

42. (New) The pattern formation member according to
claim 30, wherein at least two patterns of the plurality of areas
have an equal ratio of a width of the translucent sections to a
width of the shield sections, and widths of the translucent
5 sections and the shield sections are different for each of said
areas.

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43. (New) The pattern formation member according to
claim 42, wherein:

the plurality of areas comprises different direction areas
having straight patterns with directions different from the
5 directions of other areas of the rotation disk, and

the different direction areas are disposed in areas of the
rotation disk where the straight patterns of other areas of the
rotation disk would be are parallel to a scanning direction
according to a rotation of said rotation disk in an observation
10 field.

44. (New) The pattern formation member according to
claim 43, wherein when a width of different direction area having
a constant width is X and a period of the translucent section and
the shield section is W in said rotation disk, X/W is constant.

45. (New) The pattern formation member according to
claim 44, wherein

the plurality of areas comprises at least two areas in which
the translucent sections and the shield sections have a same
5 width,

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a period W of said translucent sections and said shield sections on an inner concentric circle area is smaller than that of an outer concentric circle area, and

10 a size of the width of different direction area in the inner concentric circle areas is smaller than a size of the width of different direction area in the outer concentric circle areas.

46. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 29, wherein the rotation disk is rotatable on a light path.

47. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 30, wherein the rotation disk is rotatable on a light path.

48. (New) The pattern formation member according to claim 31, wherein the rotation disk is rotatable on a light path.